

Case 2719

***Musca heraclei* Linnaeus, 1758 (currently *Euleia heraclei*; Insecta, Diptera): proposed conservation of *heraclei* as the correct spelling of the specific name**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is the conservation of the established spelling of the specific name of the celery fly, *Euleia heraclei* (Linnaeus, 1758), a pest species. Linnaeus published the name, which is derived from the host plant *Heracleum*, as *heraclii*, but following Fabricius (1794) it has always been spelled *heraclei*.

1. Linnaeus (1758, p. 600) described *Musca heraclii*, with the information '*Habitat in foliis, Heraclii; subcutanea*'. This matches the habits of the celery fly, which as a larva mines the leaves ('foliis subcutanea') of many Apiaceae (= Umbelliferae), including members of the genus *Heracleum* Linnaeus. The original spelling *heraclii* has been used only by Linnaeus (1761, p. 461; 1767, p. 998).

2. In the first subsequent use of the name (Fabricius, 1794, p. 354) the *-ii* was replaced by *-ei* and the name spelt *heraclei*, the correct genitive of *Heracleum*. Although there has been some doubt as to whether Fabricius had the same species before him as Linnaeus, the spelling *heraclei* has been used for the celery fly by all authors.

3. Attention was drawn to the discrepancy in spelling as a result of a recent catalogue by Foote (1984, p. 88) which misspelt the name with *-eii*, as *heracleii*; this error was subsequently copied by one of us (White, 1986, p. 159; 1987, p. 103; 1988, p. 37), but as far as we are aware it has not been copied by any other authors.

4. The celery fly is an important European pest of celery (*Apium graveolens* Linnaeus) and occasionally of related crops, such as carrot (*Daucus carota* Linnaeus), lovage (*Levisticum officinale* Koch), parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa* Linnaeus) and Russian cow parsnip (*Heracleum sosnowskyi* Maneden). The spelling *heraclei* has been used in all economic literature known to us, including the following:

Bevan (1966), control on celery in the UK;

Carden & Oakley (1983), recognition, biology and control on celery and parsnip in the UK;

Desroches (1972), recognition of parasitised pupae;

Isart (1979), general review and status on celery and carrots in Spain;

Jones & Jones (1984), damage, biology and control on celery and parsnip in the UK;

Kabysh (1979), control on Russian cow parsnip in the Moscow region;
 Leroi (1972; 1974; 1975a; 1975b; 1977), studies of mine formation, mating behaviour, and biology on celery in France;
 Spitzer (1964), biology, damage and parasites on parsnip and lovage in Czechoslovakia.

Taxonomic works using the spelling *heraclei* include the standard work on Palaearctic TEPHRITIDAE (Hendel, 1927, p. 97) and the British check list (Kloet & Hincks, 1976, p. 69):

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the correct spelling of the specific name *heraclii* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Musca heraclii*, is *heraclei*;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *heraclei* Linnaeus, 1758, ruled in (1) above to be the correct spelling of *heraclii*, as published in the binomen *Musca heraclii*;
- (3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *heraclii* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Musca heraclii* (ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect original spelling of *heraclei* Linnaeus, 1758).

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